

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are respectfully requested for claims 1-22 in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

New claims 10-22 are submitted herewith. Claim 10 depends from independent claim 1, while claim 11 depends from independent claim 8. Each of these claims recites that the conductive wire serves as a heating wire to provide an antifogging property or as an antenna wire. Support for these claims may be found in the specification, for instance on page 3 at lines 11-143.

Claims 12-19 are similar to claims 1-7 and 10, however they are directed to a method that involves a plurality of wires. Claims 20-22 are similar to claims 8, 9 and 11, however they are directed to an apparatus that has a plurality of wires. The present application contemplates methods and apparatus involving a plurality of wires, not only in the sense that the use of the singular is typically understood, in patent parlance, to include the plural, but specifically, for instance on page 3, line 7; the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4; and Figure 2, and the related text appearing on page 6, lines 15-25.

The rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Enachescu et al. (U.S. 6,840,666) is respectfully traversed. As amended, the claims are directed to methods or apparatus with conductive wire(s) on vehicular plate glass.

In contrast, Enachescu relates to a method for finding defects (including shorts and opens (see col. 2, lines 9-10)) of pixels of liquid crystal display (LCD) panels (see col. 1, lines 34-36). The teachings of Enachescu are therefore, not within the scope of the present claims, which relate to wire(s) on vehicular plate glass.

In a liquid crystal display, the distance between adjacent pixels may be so close that a microscope may be necessary to measure the distance between pixels. As a result, it is difficult to detect or locate defect pixels by a simple infrared thermography, due to the effect of other pixels surrounding the defect pixels (see the Abstract of Enachescu et al.) Enachescu tries to overcome this difficulty using a special algorithm.

In the very different field of vehicular plate glass applications, the distance between adjacent conductive wire(s) is typically at least 20 mm. As a result of this distance, the effect of thermal radiation from other conductive wires surrounding a defective conductive wire can be totally ignored. Thus, the comparison (as recited, for instance, in claim 3) can be performed with a simply image data subtraction between a temperature distribution image and the data. This simple image data subtraction is not disclosed or suggested by Enachescu.

Moreover, a person of skill in the art would not readily take the teachings of Enachescu, which are related to liquid crystal displays, and try to use them in applications involving vehicular plate glass. Enachescu provides no suggestion

or motivation to a person of skill in the art to try to use the teachings relevant to liquid crystal displays in applications other than liquid crystal displays.

Accordingly, the cited reference does not teach each and every element of the present claims, as amended, and cannot anticipate these claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

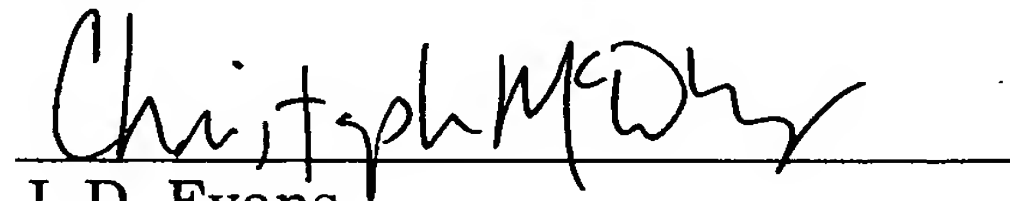
In view of the foregoing, the application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #038788.52620US).

Respectfully submitted,

September 21, 2005



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